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DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND PETITION

We, Kenneth R. Owens, residing and having a post office address of 1106 Fourth Street, St. Louis MO 63126, a citizen of the United States, Srinivas V. Makam, residing and having a post office address of 1712 Ada Court, Naperville, IL 60540, a citizen of India, Changcheng Huang, residing and having a post office address of 2833 Buckingham Drive, Apt. 303, Lisle, Illinois 60532, a citizen of Canada, and Vishal Sharma, and having a post office address of 3061 Zanker Road, Suite B, San Jose CA 95134, a citizen of India, believe that we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

REVERSE NOTIFICATION TREE FOR DATA NETWORKS

the specification of which was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 20, 2000 under Serial No. 09/693,276.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendments referred to above.

The undersigned hereby appoint Joseph Krause, Reg. No. 32,578, Angelo J. Bufalino, Reg. No. 29,622, James T. FitzGibbon, Reg. No. 20,592, Thomas D. Paulius, Reg. No. 30,792, Richard A. Zachar, Reg. No. 25,560, Michael J. Turgeon, Reg. No. 39,404, and Ludwig E. Kolman, Reg. No. 32,473, its attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith, and to receive the Letters Patent. Please address all correspondence to:

Joseph P. Krause, Esq.  
VEDDER PRICE KAUFMAN & KAMMHOLZ  
222 N. LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

The undersigned Petitioners declare further that all statements made herein of their own knowledge are true and that all statements made herein of their information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Kenneth R. Owens  
Kenneth R. Owens

DATED: 3/20/01

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed: NONE

We hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e)(1) of the following provisional applications: U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/160,840 filed October 21, 1999; U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/161,277 filed November 25, 1999; and U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/187,798, filed March 8, 2000.

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application: NONE



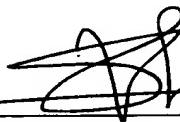
Srinivas V. Makam

DATED: 3-12-01



Changcheng Huang

DATED: Mar 8, 2001



Vishal Sharma

DATED: 01/23/2001